Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-15 SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-01 IO-10 NEA-10 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 PA-02 PRS-01

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R 021751Z JUN 75 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0477 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY TOKYO USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, OECD, IEA, GW

SUBJECT: FRG NEWSPAPER COMMENT ON IEA AND OECD PARIS MEETINGS

1. THE RESULTS OF THE IEA AND OECD MEETINGS IN PARIS HAVE FOUND WIDE FACTUAL COVERAGE IN THE ECONOMIC SECTIONS OF FRG NEWSPAPERS BUT INITIALLY ATTRACTED ONLY LITTLE EDITORIAL COMMENT. THIS COMMENT WAS REFLECTED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY IN BETWEEN-THE-LINES REPORTING OR IN HEADLINES SUCH AS "EARNINGS OF RAW MATERIALS COUNTRIES ARE TO BE STABLISED,""INDUSTRIAL STATES WANT TO CONTINUE THE ENERGY DIALOGUE,"
"DIFFERENCES WERE NOT
OVERCOME", OR "RAW MATERIALS AGREEMENTS WERE REJECTED". UNCLASSIFIED

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MOST PAPERS STRESSED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S "OFFER FOR

COOPERATION WITH THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES" AND HIS "CONDITIONAL WILLINGNESS OF MEETING HALF-WAY THE WISHES OF THE LDC'S" THUS GIVING AN IMPETUS FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIAL STATES, THE THIRD WORLD AND THE OIL PRODUCERS. ALSO THE "REMARKABLE" SPEECHES OF FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER AND OF ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHS WERE HIGHLIGHTED WHICH POINTED TO THE DETRIMENTAL DAMAGES ARISING FOR LDC'S FROM PRICE CARTELS AND CORRESPONDING RAW MATERIALS AGREEMENTS AS THEY WOULD INCREASE THE PRICES OF SUCH RAW MATERIALS.

2. ONE OF THE FEW COMMENTS PUBLISHED IN THE BONN GENERAL ANZEIGER AND THE BONNER RUNDSCHAU WAS A PARIS DATE-LINED ITEM OF THE VWD ECONOMIC PRESS SERVICE ON THE IEA MEETING. THIS MEETING, THE VWD STATES, WAS NOT CAPABLE OF FULLY OVERCOMING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, EVEN THOUGH IT ACHIEVED A CERTAIN NARROWING OF VIEWS. "THE BASIC DIVERGENCE THREATENS TO LET THE ORIGINAL DASH OF THE AGENCY BECOME SOMEWHAT LAME ALREADY NOW". THE EUROPEANS AND JAPANESE WERE EAGER TO USE THIS MEETING FOR PROCLAIMING THE WILLINGNESS FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AGENCY AND LDC'S AND OIL PRODUCERS AND "SECRETARY KISSINGER CAME TO PARIS WITH THE GOAL OF SHOCKING UP HIS IEA PARTNERS. AFTER A MILD WINTER AND AN ECONOMICALLY FEEBLE SPRING". BUT OF THE SECRETARY'S FOUR SUBJECTS IN WHICH NEW EFFORTS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN ONLY HIS PROPOSALS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENERGY R&D PROGRAM WAS TAKEN UP IN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE. THE COMMENT GOES ON TO SAY THAT MR. KISSINGER HAS GIVEN IN ON THE ISSUE OF MINIMUM PRICES FOR PETROLEUM WHICH ARE TO BE "CONSIDERABLY" BELOW THE PRESENT PRICES. THE EUROPEANS HAVE, HOWEVER, GREAT DOUBT ABOUT WHAT THE SECRETARY MEANT WHEN HE SAID "CONSIDERABLY". THE COMMENT CONCLUDES THAT THE IEA MEETING LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT THE QUESTION OF OIL PRICES IS BEING APPROACHED IN A DIFFERENT MANNER ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC: "THE EUROPEANS AND WITH THEM THE JAPANESE ARE LOOKING, ABOVE ALL, FOR A DIALOGUE WITH THE PRO-UNCLASSIFIED

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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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DUCER COUNTRIES, IN ANTICIPATION OF WINNING A MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE ON THEIR PART AND GENERAL EASING OF RELATIONS. THE AMERICANS, ON THE OTHER HAND, WITH THEIR STRONGER ENERGY RESERVE BASIS, THINK MORE IN TERMS OF ACTIVE SELF-HELP."

3. WHILE CONCENTRATING THEIR EDITORIAL COMMENTS FOR THE MOST PART ON THE NATO CONFERENCE, SEVERAL WEEKEND PAPERS ALSO CARRIED BRIEF COMMENTS ON THE OECD MINISTERIAL. THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE VIEWED THE NEARLY UNANIMOUS (EXCEPT FOR PORTUGAL) RENEWAL OF THE STANDSTILL AGREEMENT FOR ANOTHER YEAR AS THE CONFERENCE'S MOST SIGNIFICANT RESULT. THE FRANKFURTER UNCLASSIFIED

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RUNDSCHAU EMPHASIZED THE OECD'S RESOLVE TO STIMULATE THE NATIONAL ECONOMIES. WITHOUT PROVOKING NEW WAVES OF INFLATION, WHILE REALIZING THAT 14 MILLION UNEMPLOYED IN THE OECD COUNTRIES POSED A GREATER DANGER THAN INFLATION. THE HANDELSBLATT SAW IN THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING SIGNALS TO THE LDCS OF WILLINGNESS BY THE DCS TO EXTEND HELP AND TO THE OIL PRODUCERS OF A READINESS TO RESUME THE DIALOGUE. "IT NOW SEEMS". THE PAPER CONTINUED. "AS IF THE US WAS ALSO NO LONGER OPPOSED TO THE BROADENING OF THE DIALOGUE TO INCLUDE BASIC MATERIALS ISSUES. THE WAY IT DID DURING THE PARIS PREPCON." FURTHER, THE HANDELSBLATTVIEWED AS A CAUTIOUS RAW MATERIALS POLICY THE OECD'S REJECTION OF INDEXING, WHILE DEMONSTRATING RECEPTIVITY TOWARD A FORM OF EXPORT EARNINGS STABILIZATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF LDC RAW MATERIALS PRODUCERS. HILLENBRAND

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